

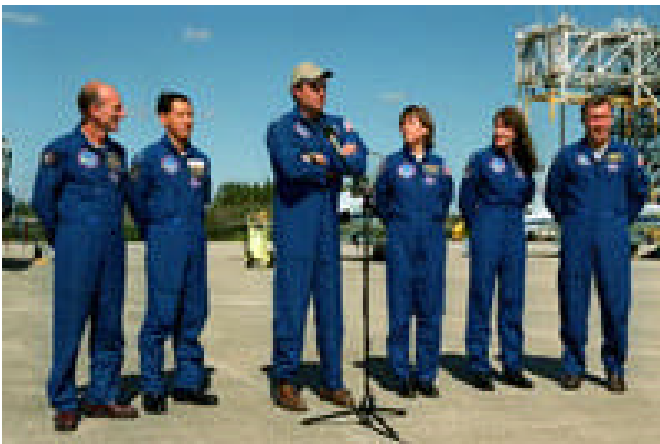
Tuesday, February 8, 2000

Crew arrives for STS-99 launch –countdown begins 5:30 p.m. today



NASA technology awards continue 7-year trend of increases

▲ **Mission Update: Deja Vu.** The STS-99 crew (below) returned to KSC yesterday to prepare for launch on Friday, Feb. 11. Launch countdown begins at 5:30 p.m. today. Countdown status briefings are at 9 a.m. Wednesday and Thursday, with a pre-launch news conference scheduled for 3 p.m. on Wednesday. The briefings and the conference will be carried live on NASA TV.



▲ **Space Act Awards** – KSC employees received \$140,000 in Space Act Awards for the 1999 fiscal year, an increase of about \$43,000 over 1998. KSC led all Centers with 65 software releases, a new Agency record. In all categories combined, KSC place fourth among NASA Centers, with Goddard Space Flight Center finishing first. NASA has given Space Act Awards since 1958 to encourage technological development among employees.

◆ **Celebrating Environmental & Energy Awareness Week Via Slogan Contest** -- In conjunction with Earth Day on April 22, NASA and the 45th Space Wing will be

celebrating Environmental and Energy Awareness Week (EEAW) April 18-21. The committee is sponsoring a slogan contest that expresses this year's theme, "*Clean Environment for the 21st Century*," for use on publicity materials. All employees are asked to submit ideas by close of business Feb.18. Entries will be reviewed and evaluated by the EEAW Committee and the winner will be awarded a prize at the opening ceremony on April 18. Entries can be e-mailed to Barbara Naylor at barbara.naylor-1@ksc.nasa.gov or Diane Porter at porterd@usasrb.ksc.nasa.gov.

◆ **The Bone Marrow Registration Drive is scheduled for Feb. 15-18.** Please read about Joshua Weeks and Miguel Omar Rodriguez, two children from KSC families, who need our help. Their stories are on the Web site: <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/univ/programs/marrow/marrow.html> . If you would like more information, you can go to one of the information sessions listed below:

- Feb. 8 12:30 -1 p.m. OSB room #4308
- Feb. 9 11 a.m. -11:30 p.m. O&C room #2138
- Feb. 14 12:30 -1 p.m. USA, Cape Canaveral, NSLD-1, main conference room #409

◆ **Did You Know?** NASA-sponsored research on long-duration space travel focused on using algae as a potential food supply, oxygen source and a recycling agent. Commercial use is in the microalgae-based, vegetable-like oil called Formulaid® developed as an enriched baby food containing two essential polyunsaturated fatty acids found in human milk -- but not in most baby formulas -- and believed to be important for infants' mental and visual development.

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

Deadlines: 10 a.m. the day before. Send information, comments or questions to:

E-mail – Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov ◆ Mail Code – IDI-011 ◆ Telephone – 867-2815
Countdown on the Internet -- <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2000/2000.htm>